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കേരള സർക്കാർ
Government of Kerala
2026

Regn.No. KERBIL/2012/45073
dated 05-09-2012 with RNI
Reg No.KL/TV(N)/634/2021-2023

കേരള ഗസറ്റ്
KERALA GAZETTE
അസാധാരണം
EXTRAORDINARY

ആധികാരികമായി പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തുന്നത്
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

വാല്യം 15
Vol. XV

തിരുവനന്തപുരം, ശനി
Thiruvananthapuram, Saturday

2026 ഫെബ്രുവരി 14
14th February 2026
1201 കുംഭം 2
2nd Kumbham 1201
1947 മാഘം 25
25th Magha 1947

നമ്പർ
No.
611

HIGH-POWERED ELECTION COMMITTEE – PHASE V-C
For the Bar Council of Kerala
[*Appointed in terms of the order dated 18.11.2025 passed in WP (C.) No. 1319/2023 by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India*]

ELECTION NOTIFICATION 2026
Proceedings No. 2 of 2026 dated 13.02.2026 [RV-I]

BAR COUNCIL OF KERALA
Bar Council Bhavan, High Court Campus, Ernakulam, Kochi – 682 031.

ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS

The **High-Powered Election Committee Phase V-C**, as appointed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court *vide* Order dated 18.11.2025 in W.P. (Civil) No. 1319/2023 (*M.Varadhan Vs. Union of India & Anr.*), and in compliance of the said order and

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the orders thereafter, concerning the Election of Members to the BAR COUNCIL OF KERALA, hereby notify the **Election of 23 Members** to be held on Friday the 17th April, 2026 between 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., as per the Schedule hereunder and the instructions thereto.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court by its further orders dated 08.12.2025 and 18.12.2025 in W.P. (Civil) No. 581/2024 (*Yogamaya M.G. Vs. Union of India & Ors*), has directed to provide 30 per cent representation for women in the Bar Council Elections, subject to the final outcome of the case, pending before the Supreme Court. On the subject, the Bar Council of India has issued a communication dated 23.12.2025 and the relevant para is as follows:

> *"For a Council of total strength of 25, the women's component may be reflected as 7 seats, comprising 5 seats to be filled up through election and 2 seats through co-option by Bar Council of India. In other words, for a Council of 25, the working computation is 7, and the women elected component is 5. The election notification may accordingly notify election for 23 seats, and within those 23 seats, a women elected component of 5 seats, to be secured in accordance with the directions of the High-Powered Election Committee."*

A further communication dated 10.02.2026 from Bar Council of India refers to the decision of the High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee dated 09.02.2026 stipulating that there shall be a single common ballot paper for the Election, and that there shall be no separate ballot paper for women candidates.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court by its order dated 05.02.2026 in Transfer Petition (s) (Civil) No. 3577-3590/2025 (*Bar Council of India Vs. Prahlad Sharma & Ors*), has confirmed the non-refundable election fee of Rs. 1,25,000/- (Rupees One Lakhs Twenty-Five Thousand only) payable by advocates who are desirous of contesting the elections.

SCHEDULE

1.	Total Number of Seats	25
2.	Number of Seats for which election is to be held	23
	Number of other candidates to be elected - Members who have been Advocates for atleast 10 years on the State Roll - Others	 12 6
	Number of women candidates to be elected	5
	Women candidates to be Co-opted	2
3.	Release of Provisional voters list	28.02.2026
4.	Objections / Rectifications / Modifications, if any, in the voters list	07.03.2026

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5.	Publication of Final voters list	14.03.2026
6.	Issue of Nomination Forms for prospective candidates	14.03.2026 from 10 am to 16.03.2026 till 5 pm
7.	Last date for filing Nomination	23.03.2026 till 5 pm
8.	Publication of Provisional list of candidates, after scrutiny	25.03.2026
9.	Rejection and Withdrawal of Nominations of candidates	26.03.2026 by 4 pm
10.	Publication of Final list of candidates	26.03.2026 by 6 pm
11.	Place of Polling/Election	Various booths across the State to be notified
12.	Date of Election	17th April 2026, Friday between 10 am to 5 pm
13.	Counting of Votes	18th April 2026 onwards

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. The Advocates whose names are shown in the Final Voters List are entitled to vote in the Election.
2. All Voters shall vote at the Polling Stations where their respective names are shown.
3. Voting shall take place at the Polling Booths as notified or such other places as notified.
4. Where there are lesser number of voters and if the place of bar association is situated close to any nearby polling both, then such voters will be attached to the nearest Polling Stations and shall be entitled to vote at those Polling Stations.
5. The Advocates whose names are published in the Final Voters List are entitled to contest in the Election of the Bar Council, subject to such eligibility.
6. A prospective candidate shall file the nomination in the requisite form with two proposers, being voters from the Final Voters List, with the prescribed fee, and all enclosures and declarations, along with an affidavit by the prospective candidate (regarding pendency of disciplinary proceedings, criminal cases or conviction within a period of 9 months), prior to the date of the Election.
7. A non-refundable Application Fee of Rs. 1,25,000/- (Rupees One Lakhs Twenty-Five Thousand only) is to be paid by each Demand Draft / Bankers' Cheque in favour of "The Secretary, Bar Council of Kerala", payable at Kochi.

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8. The Nomination Form, as and when uploaded, can be downloaded from the Election Page of the website and shall be submitted during the office hours on the dates specified above to the Secretary, Bar Council of Kerala, Bar Council Bhavan, High Court Campus, Ernakulam, Kochi.
9. Any individual grievance as regards the Election shall be addressed to the High-Powered Election Committee at the following email ID:
   hpec.bck@gmail.com
10. Any appeal against the Decision of the High-Powered Election Committee can be made to the High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee appointed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on the following e-mail ID:
    sec.supervisorycommitee@gmail.com
    The High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee consists of
    i. Mr. Justice Subhanshu Dhulia, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India (Chairperson);
    ii. Mr. Justice Ravi Shanker Jha, Former Chief Justice, Punjab and Haryana High Court; and
    iii. Mr. V.Giri, Senior Advocate.
11. As per the Orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, no Civil Court or High Court shall entertain any Petition against such Decision.

Justice V.G. ARUN (Retd.)
Returning Officer.

Justice RAJIV SHAKDHER (Retd.),
Mr E. Om Prakash & Dr. Amit George
High-Powered Election Committee – Phase V C

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AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, 2026

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